

RADIO-TV MONITORING SERVICE, INC.

3408 WISCONSIN AVENUE, N. W.

--

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20016

--

244-8682

PROGRAM:

ISSUES AND ANSWERS

DATE:

January 15, 1967

STATION OR NETWORK:

WMAL-TV, ABC-TV

TIME:

1:30 P.M.

SOVIET ANTI-MISSILE SYSTEMS

Senator Everett Dirksen was interviewed.

QUESTION: Do you agree with the President that it's wise to defer the basic decision on the so-called anti-missile missile system even though the Soviet Union is going ahead with such a program itself?

SENATOR DIRKSEN: My difficulty is to come to a conclusion on the basis of the rather inconclusive testimony and evidence thus far. Now I saw a report that the Soviet Union had actually deployed this anti-missile defense for 130 cities, then I saw another report that it was only for Moscow. Now, what is correct? Frankly, I don't know. Does our CIA know? Have we had enough reconnaissance to know what the picture is, and you can't solve the problem unless you first know what the problem is.

QUESTION: Now the President in his State of the Union Message, of course, mentioned only Moscow. Maybe he didn't have enough information?

DIRKSEN: Who knows? He certainly will have more than I do. Now, I want to amplify that a little, that is, a general answer. When I think in terms of anti-missiles, and then of course there are offensive weapons -- allegedly we have got 3 or 4 times as many warheads as they have -- but if they've got enough to annihilate us and we have enough to annihilate them, then what real difference does it make how many we have and how many they have, because you're looking at co-annihilation! That only means that more work has to be done in the general disarmament field and in controls in the hope that this thing can be kept from escalating to a point where no country can afford that kind of an expenditure.